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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Nevada Secretary of State and ACPD Seeking 2008 Voter Education and Outreach Grants Applications

Carson City—Secretary of State Ross Miller along with the Advisory Committee on Participatory Democracy (ACPD) is now seeking applications for programs to conduct voter education and outreach to the citizens of Nevada. Funds from the 2008 Voter Education and Outreach Grant are made available to the Nevada Secretary of State Office through Section 101 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002.

Applicants eligible to apply are limited to nonprofit, nonpartisan organizations for the purpose of voter education and outreach. Application forms are available online at www.nvsos.gov or by contacting the Secretary of State's office at (775) 684-5705. Grant applications must be mailed or hand delivered to the Secretary of States Office by 4:00 p.m. on June 23, 2008. Grant recipients will be notified on or by June 30, 2008.

The ACPD will seek grant applications with a minimum funding request of \$15,000, with the following priorities serving as the criteria against which each proposal will be ranked:

- 1. Seek to increase the voter turnout rate the percentage of registered voters that participate in an election.
- 2. Seek to raise the voter registration rate the percentage of eligible citizens who are registered to vote.
- 3. Increase the discourse on public policy, resulting in a more informed electorate.
- 4. Focus on segments of the community who traditionally participate at lower rates than the population as a whole.
- 5. Develop new partnerships that will promote future opportunities improving voter registration and/or participation efforts.

For further information, please visit the Secretary of State website, <u>www.nvsos.gov</u>, or contact the office at (775) 684-5705.

##more##

About the ACPD:

The ACPD was first established in 1997 by the Legislature under the office of the Department of Cultural Affairs. The 2003 Legislature, which placed the ACPD under the auspices of the Secretary of State's office, established very specific goals to reach by the 2008 General Election: attaining 75% voter registration in the State and getting at least 70% of those registered voters to vote in the 2008 General Election. The ACPD and election officials throughout the state will work in a cooperative and collaborative effort to achieve these goals.

The ACPD consists of 10 members including the Secretary of State or his designee and nine other members appointed by the Secretary of State. The Committee's purpose is to assist the Secretary of State in identifying and proposing programs that promote citizen participation in governance, establishing a Jean Ford Democracy Award and working with partner organizations at the local, state and national level to increase voter participation. For more information on the ACPD, visit www.nvsos.gov.

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